Bombay Gazette

PUBLISHED THRICE A WEEK, ON EVERY MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, AND FRIDAY, MORNING.

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"Nothing extenuate, nor set down aught in Malice."

Vol. LI. WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3, 1840. **3,168.**

NOTICE.

THE Public are hereby respectfully informed, that the BOMBAY GAZETTE PRESS has been removed from the late Premises in Nesbit Lane, to No. 5 Forbes Street, and is now occupying the Premises over Mr. BENNETT'S Auction Rooms, where all communications to the Editor will be received.—Bombay, 3rd June 1840.

FOR LIVERPOOL.—The A. I. Ship "CESTRIAN," of 381 TONS, THOMAS ARMSTRONG, Commander, will sail on the 12th Instant. For Freight or Passage apply to

EDMOND BIBBY AND Co.

Rampart Row, 3rd June 1840.

FOR LIVERPOOL.—The fine first class Ship "WILLIAM SHARPLES," of 794 Tons, WM. JONES, Commander, having a great part of her cargo engaged will sail on the 10th Prox. For freight or passage apply to Captain JONES, or to Messrs. HIGGINSON AND CARDWELL.—Bombay, 3rd June 1840.

FOR SINGAPORE, the Barque "SINGAPORE," J. HAMILTON, Commander, will sail on Thursday next. For Cabin Freight or Passage apply to Messrs. HIGGINSON and CARDWELL.—Meadow Street, 3rd June 1840.

BOMBAY
Fire Assurance Company,
ESTABLISHED 1840.

CAPITAL TEN LACKS.

THE DIRECTORS of the Bombay Fire Assurance Company, beg to intimate that they are prepared to grant Policies of Assurance against the Risk of Loss or Damage by Fire, upon Buildings, Goods, Wares or Merchandize, at moderate rates of Premium, particulars of which can be obtained at the Office of HIGGINSON and CARDWELL, Secretaries.

Bombay, 3rd June 1840.

SALE BY AUCTION.

THIS day Wednesday, the 3d of June, at 11 o'clock A. M. presisely Messrs. ROBERT FRITH AND Co., will sell by Public Auction, an Invoice of Apothecary's Stores, comprising Seidlitz, Soda Powder and Pill Boxes, Enemas, Catheters and Bougies, a Tincture Press, Pill Machine, Powder Folder, Tow, Breast and Stomach Pumps, Pink and Blue Saucers, Prepared Teats, Nipple Sheds, Adhesive and Soap Plaisters, Stomach Tubes, Rectum Bougies, &c. &c. Lunett Watch Glasses, Telescopes, 3 old fashioned but excellent going Gold Watches, 2 pairs of Pistols.

AT 12 A. M. the Goods remaining unsold from the "*Competent*," with an excellent going 2 day Chronometer by *Moleneux* of London, may be seen at the Rooms of the Auctioneers.

AT 1 P. M. A fine Bahrein Cow just landed from the Sir Herbert Compton, and a Cabul Poney.

TO-MORROW Thursday, the 4th instant, Messrs. ROBERT FRITH AND Co. will sell by Public Auction, at 12 A. M. at a Godown under the Chamber of Commerce, all the SAILS AND PARS landed from the Ship "*Competent.*"

NOTICE.

FOR SALE.—At this Office, THE CALENDAR AND DIRECTORY for the present year, with the ARMY, CIVIL, AND INDIAN NAVY LISTS, EUROPEAN INHABITANTS, corrected to the latest possible date, and the list of H. H. the NIZAM'S ARMY,—It likewise contains regulations relating to the three services and to the Mercantile Community, with a variety of useful Tables and other matter, printed on English Paper in new Types. As only a limited number of copies is struck off, gentlemen desirous of having the CALENDAR and DIRECTORY are requested to make early applications. MARRYATT'S CODE OF SIGNALS of the latest Edition now in the Press, will form a seperate Book, and delivered to Subscribers in a few days.

Bombay Gazette Office, 1st June 1840.

CIRCULATING LIBRARY.

MESSRS. COLLETT AND CO. beg to republish the following, their rules of trade for the information of the Public, and to solicit a continuation of the flattering support they have already experienced.

1. Gentlemen joining the Library during the month will be charged for the whole vizt. 4 Rs. per month.
2. Subscribers at Out Stations will be charged 7 Rs. per month.
3. Non-Subscribers will be allowed to read within the rooms on the payment of 4 annas a day, or take out Books on paying a Rupee for each work, not exceeding 4 vols.
4. No Books are to be kept from the Library, longer than one week, and in the perusal of new works, it is solicited that Subscribers will be as expeditious as possible, in order that all may be accommodated—Standard works, and works of reference may however be kept as long as they may be required.
5. Books if spoiled, torn, or in any way disfigured, must be paid for at the shop prices (10 per cent discount) or replaced by a copy equally good.
6. A Subscriber's lending books to a Non-Subscriber will be charged a Month's Subscription in addition.
7. The Librarian will attend from 9 A. M. to 6 P. M. (Sundays excepted)

Periodicals and Newspapers are regularly received by each Overland Mail, and circulated without loss of time.

New Books by the most eminent Authors are sent out by every opportunity for the use of the Library.

In a short time Messrs. Collett & Co., hope to be able to remove to another House near Rampart Row, and thus secure airy Rooms for the convenience of their reading friends.

13, Meadow Street.

HEATH'S PICTURESQUE ANNUAL FOR 1840.

EDITED BY LEITCH RITCHIE, ESQ.

MESSRS. COLLETT AND CO. have received the above for Sale, price Rs. 24—it contains the following illustrations.

1. The Queen on Horseback,—2 Eagle Tower—3 Windsor Castle. from the road between Datchett and Eton—4 Windsor Castle, from the Home Park—5 Interior of St. George's Hall—6 Interior of St. George's Chapel—7 Windsor Castle from the Clewer Meadow—8 Windsor Castle, from the Eton Playing fields—9 Windsor Castle, from the long walk—10 Waterloo Gallery—11 Windsor Castle, from the Great Park—12 Eton, from the Windsor Castle Terrace—13 Eton, from the Playing-fields—14 Ruins, Virginia Water—15 Fishing Temple, Virginia Water.

13, Meadow Street.

WANTS Employment as a WET NURSE to any LADY.—A respectable European Women is desirous to engage herself in the above capacity.—Apply at this Office.

FOR SALE, at the Gazette Office;

Respondentia Bonds, each..	Rs.	1
Ship's Articles.....	,,	1
Policies of Insurance.....	,,	1
Bills of Exchange, per set.....	Ans.	8
Interest Bonds.....	,,	8
Bills of Lading.....	,,	8
Powers of Attorney, each.....	,,	8

☞ All orders for Letter-Press, and Copper-Plate Printing, will be punctually attended.—Bombay, 3rd June 1840.

MARINE DEPARTMENT.

NOTIFICATION.

It is the intention of the Honorable the Governor in Council to despatch a Steamer from Bombay to the Persian Gulph with a Mail for England, on the 22d of June.

Arrangements have been ordered to be made, to secure, as far as practicable, the safe and speedy passage of the Mails from Bussora to Beyroot, but it is essential that letters both private and public be made of small dimensions, that the Mail bags may be light.

By order of the Hon'ble the Governor in Council
E. M. WOOD, Lieut. Col. *Secy to Govt,*

BOMBAY.

CONTEMPORARY SELECTIONS.

The Portuguese friends of their Government at Macao have been lately very anxious, that an armed vessel should proceed from Goa to the coast of China, to aid the Governor of the only spot of China, where Europeans have any hold, to maintain his position, and it was imagined, that the Corvette, *Infanta Regente*, would sail from Goa for that purpose, but it appears that the Captain is not disposed to run any risks, and has therefore quietly taken up a position at the anchorage in the river of Pangim.—*Courier, June 2.*

Among the General Orders, will be found a notice that the Head quarters of the Commander in Chief will be established from Monday next in the Deccan, and there remain until further Notice. All correspondence from Bombay and Poonah will be dispatched from those stations to Mahabuleshwar until the 4th of June inclusive, after which day the address will be Head Quarters Poona, The outstation are directed to take measures for regulating their correspondence accordingly.

The Government in Calcutta has issued orders that the detachment, lately serving in Persia, having returned to India, its Commander Colonel B. Shee and the commissioned and non commissioned officers belonging to it, who have not been directed to proceed on other duties, shall be replaced at the disposal of the Presidencies to which they respectively belong.—*Ibid.*

We regret to have to announce that the Cholera has commenced its ravages on the way from Bombay to the Hills. At Mhar its attacks were so fearful that 300 persons are state to haved suffered, and some bodies were lying over ground from the death of the survivors to approach them.

It is also asserted that so great was the terror of the persons passing that way the Hamals all fled, leaving many respectable British families to come on as well as they could, in bullock carts.

Several families as we have been informed, have therefore resolved to come round bp Poona.—*Ibid*

Amongst the arrivals by the next steamer, we may expect that of Col. Capon from Aden. We understand that he has been ordered back by Government, on account of some misunderstanding between him and Capt. Haynes, Political Agent. A large house is now building at Aden as a residence for the principal authority there, and for the reception of the Sheiks who not unfrequently call on some business or another. We fully accord with what our Contemporary of the *Times* has said as to the distressing duty incumbent on the troops at Aden.—*Herald, June 2.*

ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE BOMBAY GAZETTE.

SIR,—Driving into the Fort this morning I came to a narrow part of the road and as a Cart occupied the left side of the road, I of course diverged to the right, determined of course to gain the left side as soon as I passed the cart, ere I could do so, however another buggy was close behind me, and altho' I made as much haste as possible out of the way it did not seem to satisfy the man, whose buggy was coming up, for as soon as it passed a person with a Bolochee cap thrust his head out and began grinning and chattering deuce knows what, as, however, I could not distinguish his gibberish, I regret Mr. Editor I cannot edify yourself and readers with its relation, and I regret it the more from hearing that the man is very learned in the English law, and must consequently have been engaged at the time in a pithy dissertation on the Regulations for proper driving on the Public ways. My object, however, is to enquire whether, if I was *wrong* in being on the *right* side, he should have made such a fuss to get on the extreme right of me? It is a pity there should be choleric drivers, I fear the man in his agitation forgot that he was making himself obnoxious to ridicule.

Your's truly,
SOCRATES.

ORIGINAL POETRY.

Oh dear! Mr. Editor what have you done?
You've ruined the Girls by your poetic fun
Good gracious! look here! how the chits tumble in
One would think by all these pure love was a sin
To be sold or destroyed by an Editor's grin.
"My dearest Eliza, pray has your Papa
Paid the teacher you had for the Spanish guitar"
"My own dearest Jenny, has ma paid the Bill
For the lessons you took in the last new Quadrille"
"My charming Young Annie pray tell me ere long,
If the music man's paid for the last Scottish song
'Twas so sweet, and so bonny, so feeling and true."
"('I is a pity it cannot be paid for by you)"
Oh heavens! The days of romance are gone by
And instead of the rush to the sweet nuptial tie
Now for bills and receipts our lovers are teazing
From people who've taught us the sweet art of pleasing
Mr. Editor you are a charming young man
(I'll flatter the wretch if I possibly can)
With your Music and songs you once did amuse us
But now you're an Editor, you must abuse us.
Pray how do you know that we girls in Bombay
For our Schooling and music and dancing can't pay?
If you don't, pray why thus in ridicule deep
Do you caution the young men to look ere they leap?
Because a proud man is compelled to sit
With nothing on earth but his own wicked wit
For his guide—And his fantastic justice dispense
—We are all "Victimized" for his horrid nonsense
As well might I caution the public to wait
Till they found if you had any sense in your pate
Before they subscribed to your Paper—and then
Pray what would become of your scandalous pen?
My mother is out—but Papa is here—saying.
If he catch you again on my instrument playing!
He'll shew you the door! So you'd better d'ye see
Be civil—Or give up your toast and your tea.
All things to all people" you say you won't be
You're determined to keep from all party quite free,
To uphold the weak, the bad you'll disgrace—
And yet you've malign'd all the girls in the place.
This is very fine justice truly, I hope
The girls will desert you and leave you to grope
Through the world, in sad silence from year unto year
Without music or song your cold heart, once to cheer.

MARIA.
Unmarried.

To our fair correspondent——We reply shortly in her own style.

Dearest Maiden we implore you
For Ladies rights be not irate
Be satisfied that we adore you
And wish each girl a happy mate.
Were we young and gay and single
Though our darling owed a lac
As long as we'd a pice to jingle
We'd never basely hang a back.—ED.

SHIPPING ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES.

ARRIVED.—None.

SAILED.—June 1st, The E. I. C. Schooner Constance, Lieut. J. W. Young, Comg., to Aden.

Do. do. Barque Mor, A. Young, Master, to Liverpool. *Passengers.*—W. H. Welch, Lieut. Gardiner.

Do. do. Barque Moffat, J. Gilbert, Master, to London. *Passenger.*—Master J. Scott.

VESSELS EXPECTED TO SAIL.

Vessels.	Agents.	Destination	To Sail.
A Steamer.....	Spt. I. Navy.	Suez.. ..	22d June.
Lady Feversham	Dirom Carter & Co.....	London ..	Dispatch.
Inglis..	B. & A Hormasjee.....	London ..	10th June
James Pattison.	MacVicar Burn & Co.....	London ..	Dispatch
Catherine.....	Forbes & Co..	London ..	Dispatch.
Regular..	Ritchie Stuart and Co.. ..	Liverpool	26th instan
Gondolier.....	Dirom carter & Co.....	Liverpool	20th inst
Orestes.....	Higginson and Co.....	Liverpool	In May
Shannon..	Forbes and co.	Liverpool	Dispatch
John Bull.....	Ritchie Steuart and Co.. ..	Liverpool	30th May
W. Sharples....	Higginson and cardwell.. ..	Liverpool	Dispatch
E. Lancaster..	Macvicar Burn and Co.....	Liverpool	Dispatch
John Knox.. ..	Do. do..	Liverpool	
Barbara..	B. & A. Hormusjee.....	Liverpool	1st June
Romeo..... ..	Remington &co	Falmouth	In May
Bucephalus.. ..	W. Nicol & co.	Clyde....	
Brenda.....	J. Nusserwanjee and Co...		
Maria.....	Macvicar Burn and co.....		
Cestrian..	Edmond Bibby and Co.....		
Haunah..	T, Jefferies & co.....	Singapore.	In May
Sir W. Wallace.	T. Jefferies and Co.....	Singapoor.	In May
Kusrovie..	E. Framjee ..	Singapore.	Dispatch
Le Auguste.. ..	T, Jefferies and co	Bourbon..	
Fort William...	J. Jeejeebhoy.	China....	
Ceylon Govt... Steamer Seaforth..... ..	Frith and co...	Columbo.	Uncertain.
Lady Grant....	.....		
Shaw Allum....	E. Framjee....	Calcutta ..	Dispatch
Tinamara..... ..	Mr. E. Bates.	Do.	
David Clark...	Remington&co.		
Helen..... ..			

SHIPPING IN THE HARBOUR.

E I. C. VESSELS.—Steamers Semiramis, Cleopatra, and Victoria.

Ceylon Govt. Steamer Seaforth, The E. I. C. Receiving Ship Hastings; Brig Taptee, Sloop Clive, Schooner Shannon, and Mahi, Cutter Margaret and Nurbudda.

MERCHANT VESSELS.—Benares, Caudry, Hydroos, Cornwallis, Fort William, Lancaster Hydroose, Colonel Newall, Lord Castle, Mahomedee, Dowlutpursad, Cauderbux Khain Moombaruck, Gondolier, Orestes, Regular, Rangoon, Lady Feversham, Mahamudy, Doulut Savoy, Mayaram Dayaram, Shah Allum, Kusrovie, Lady Grant, Wm. Sharples, John Bull, Bucephalus, Eleanor Lancaster, Romeo, John Knox, Shannon, Maria, Inglis, Sincapore, Pittamber Savoy, Barbara, Earl of Clare, Bombay Castle, Lowjee Family, Adele, Brenda, Asia Felix, Tenamara, Catherine, James Pattison, Cestrian, David Clark, Helen, Sir Herbert Herschel, Sir Herbert Compton, Cleveland, Julia, Rajasthan and Caroline.

PORTUGUESE.—Brig Simplicia.

VESSELS EXPECTED.

Vessels.	Agents.	From.	To Sail.
Steamer Sesostris.....	Supt. Indian Navy	London ..	17th Feb.
Abel Gower...	Dirom, Carter&Co	London ..	15th Feb.
*Earl Durham.	Grey & Co.....	London ..	30th Dec.
Ann.....	Dirom, Carter&Co	London ..	2nd April
Euphrates	Do. Do.....	London ..	2nd Do.
Thetis.....	Do. Do.....	London ..	18th Feb.
Tartar.....	Remington & Co.	London ..	15th March
Juverna..	.....	London ..	
Lord W. Bentinck.... ..	D. & M. Pestonjee	London ..	24th Feb.
Justina.... ..	Wooler & Co.. ..	London ..	5th March.
Queen Victoria	.....	London ..	17th Feb.
Caledona	McGregor Browg.	Liverpool	24th Feb.
Majestic..	George S. King.	Liverpool	1st March
Wilson..	W. Nicol & Co..	Liverpool	31st Dec.
Wm. Turner..	P. Milne & Co.	Liverpool	22d Feb.
Crown.....	Dirom Carter&Co	Liverpool	4th Feb.
British King...	Skinner & Co. ..	Clyde.. ..	
Monarch.....	.....	Do.. ..	
Hindoostan ..	.....	Do.. ..	22d Feb.
Quinten Leech.	.....	Do.. ..	27th March
Mary Mitchelson....	Foster & Co....	Llanelly ..	30th Nov.
Queen....	.....	Do.. ..	23d Sept.
Salacia.... ..	Dirom, Carter&Co	Do.. ..	
Pacquet d'Havana..	.....	Bordeaux	5th Aug.
Emilia..	T. Jefferies& Co.	Bordeaux	4th June.
Bolivar..	.....	Rio.....	
Calcutta.....	Dirom, Cart,&Co	Liverpool.	17th Mar.
Northumberlan	.....	London ..	5th Apr.
Sarah..... ..	Grey and Co.. ..	London ..	25th Mar.
Tweed.....	.....	.....	15th Do.
Lord Aucklan	Dirom Carter&Co	London ..	25th Feb.
Cumbrian.. ..	.....	London ..	2d April.
Dartmouth. .	Dirom, Carter&Co	London ..	
*Lintin.... ..	H. and Cardwell.	Liverpool	24th Feb.
Higginson....	Do. Do....	Liverpool	5th Mar.
Amazon.....	.....	Liverpool	2d April.
Wililam.....	DiromCarter&Co	Liverpool	
Madonna.. ..	DiromCarter&Co.	Liverpool	
Westmoreland	.....	Hull.....	18th March
John Garrow.	.....	Newcastle	
Memnon.. ...	DiromCarter&Co.	Llanelly...	
Colchester ..	.....	Llanelly ..	10th Feb.
Elizabeth Walker.....	.....	Do.. ..	do.
Ino....	.....	Llanelly ..	8th Feb

* Have sailed, by the latest accounts.

TIME OF HIGH WATER.

JUNE 1840.	MORN. H. M.	AFT. H. M
3rd Wednesday	1 7	1 30
4th Thursday	1 53	2 20

Latest advices Received.

From *London*..... 5TH APRIL.
„ *Paris*..... 6TH Do.

LATEST DATES OF INDIAN NEWS.

Calcutta	May 22d.
Delhi	„ 20th.
Agra	„ 23d.
Madras	„ 23rd.
Ceylon	„ 15th.
Maulmain	March 11th.
Singapoor	April 15th.
China	March 27th.
Australia	Feb. 25th.

DIARY OF THE WEEK.

June 3—Wednesday.
4—Thursday.
5—Friday.—Boniface. Duke of Cumberland born, 1771.—2nd Term begins 5th and ends 24th June.
6—Saturday.
7—Sunday.—Whit Sunday.—Moon First Quarter.
8—Monday.—Whit Monday.
9—Tuesday.—Whit Tuesday.

RATES OF GOVT. STOCK,—30TH MAY 1840.

4 per Cent—1835	36.....	at 98 12 to 99
4 per Cent—1832	33.....	at 103 12 to 104 4

THE GAZETTE.

Wednesday, June 3, 1840

IN consequence of being obliged to change our office from Nesbit Lane to No. 5, Forbes street, over the Sale Rooms of Messrs. BENNETT and Co., we have to apologize to our readers for any errors that may appear in this days issue, as well as for the scanty portion of editorial matter which we are able to supply. "Three removes are said to be as bad as a fire" but judging from our present embarrassments, the migration of a Press must equal a general conflagration. In our next we trust to have made all our arrangements, and that the whole establishment will progress in an orderly and business like way. At present all is confusion, worse confounded. What shall we compare it to? an earthquake, a torrent, or (dear to English remembrances) a great wash, perhaps, the latter is the best simile, as Editors are people who notoriously dabble in hot water, and mangle a great many sheets. We trust our excuses will be received with due allowance for our peculiar situation, and like boys promise to behave better next time.

WE have been most kindly favored by a Correspondent with the following items of intelligence which we hasten to lay before our readers. They were contained in a letter dated from the neighbourhood of Peshawur on the 9th of May.

"Arthur Conolly goes to Kokan which is North East of Bokhara, there is a doubt of his being able to reach that place on account of the present unsettled state of the intervening countries. The Khan of Kokan wishes to enter into treaty with us.

Colonel Stoddart sent as Political Agent to the British Government is still a close Prisoner there.

Abbott has reached the Russian Camp beyond Khiva on a Mission from the Envoy to report progress, The Political news here are that the Envoy goes into the Council and Burnes succeeds.

Saadat Khan at the instigation of Sooltan Mahomet of Peshawur and the Sikhs has raised nearly all the Momund tribes against Torabuz Khan, whom the Envoy appointed chief of the Momund.

The Sikhs of Peshawur are at war with the Khyburees.

The Sikh authorities have forbid Shah Soojah's subjects who may be at Peshawur from returning to the Shah's territories, (this appears next to a declaration of war.)

The Sikh authorities at Peshawur are doing every thing they can to thwart our Political Agent there.

Our Government I hear is going to offer the Sikhs a sum of money for Peshawur, and if refused we go to war—It will be an easy matter for us to take Peshawur—A little money to the Hill tribes, and a hint to the Mussulman population would thrust them out in a week with a sight of one or two of our Regiments; but should we enter the Punjaub, there must be slaughter, for they are vain enough to shew a front, however the French Officers say the Sikhs will not fight—that is they will fight and run. Nothing has been stirring at Herat but Political humbug.—A grand treaty has been concluded with them, the substance of which is that, they give up slaving and correspond with no foreign power but with our consent—Both of which they perform as they find most convenient, while we rigidly perform our part of it viz. paying them Coin—in fact, we are exactly in the same position at Herat now, as we were many years ago in Persia—the result will no doubt be similar: but what can one expect of a treaty framed by persons at a distance, and without consulting the only person who knew any thing of the state of the Country—that is Pottinger, who told them long ago that a Contingent force is the only way to have any hold on such villains as Yar Mahomed—this *worthy* is ready to *sell* himself to the "*highest* bidder."—

WE cannot help feeling surprized that the Batta for the Affghanistan Campaign is still kept back. It has been ordered to be disbursed by the Supreme Government long ago, and we are informed also that that order has been officially received by the authorities here, and now officers are arriving from Scinde daily with shattered constitutions and empty Pockets, to whom a boon of the nature would be of the greatest utility, while it saved them from great vexation and annoyance. Many have gone home without the coin, and have been obliged to assign their shares at a per centage to their Agents, others have died, and their Widows are struggling on, to whom a few rupees (always acceptable) would now be hailed as a means of assistance to return to their Native Land. We trust that the measure will be no longer delayed. Officials high in power and enjoying every luxury often forget, that however small a pittance may be, that it is still an object of sheer necessity to those who have exhausted their private means in fitting out and marching during the campaign. Camels, Horses and Tattoes have died, and the needy Sub sees all his ancient Turband Friends, advance with little Bills for Master as soon as he sets foot in Bombay. Those who have the power to expedite measures, and do not, perchance have nothing to receive themselves from the share of the spoil, but still the moral of the Fable "of the Boys and the Frogs" should be remembered, "that what is sport to them is death to others."

A number of beautiful Annuals are now for sale in Bombay, for 1840. One of the best is Heath's Picturesque, which is edited by Leitch Ritchie, and contains not only an account of Windsor Castle and its environs, but an excellent historical sketch of the varied and interesting events of which it has been the scene. It is in fact a vivid delineation of the days of Chivalry from the time of King Arthur and his round table—to the present scenes of royal festivity and courtly grace. The Episodes are as beautiful as true—the royal James of Scotland, the Poet and the lover, there wrote his Queens Quair and sighed not in vain for his Joan Beaufort. Strange to say the course of true love did for once run smoothe "he was restored to his Kingdom and wedded his Lady love." His tragical end when she vainly attempted to shelter him from his murderers in her protecting arms, how she was wounded in the attempt, and how the brave Catherine Douglas valiantly interposed her beauteous arm to serve as a substitute for the bolt treacherously withdrawn, and had it "crushed like a reed," have all been told by the mighty magician of the North. We recommend all our fair readers who are fond of beautiful illustrations and graphic sketches of the lights and shades of life to pass an hour or two in the perusal of this really beautiful Book. To the loyal the portrait of Her Majesty on her favorite charger as a frontispiece will heighten the value of the work, while many may be curious to know something of the locality where our youthful Queen has passed that sweetest of months, the Hony Moon.

The views of Eton will recal the days of youth and joy in some, and remind others that however her groves of ancient oaks and elms flourished that Birch was generally backward.

WE are glad to see that our Contemporary of the *Courier* has noticed the shameful obstruction of the streets by Cotton Bales. This is a nuisance which calls loudly for the interference of the Police. Some of the ways are rendered quite dangerous by the Hackeries and Gooney Wallahs by day, and at night any one driving through the Fort is liable to be upset by finding a Bale stuck up where in the morning he passed clear. We trust this abomination will be put an end to as soon as possible.

WE have received a letter from a Correspondent signing himself "JUSTICE" on the subject of the late vacancy of Native Interpreter to the Supreme Court. He states that his communication has been refused by the *Courier* and really we are not surprized at it. If our Correspondent will take his letter and make it just one half shorter, avoid repetition, tautology, and indifferent grammar, we will give him a corner in our columns with pleasure, if it will answer any good end to him or his friends, but we must assure him it is on a subject in which the public at large will take no interest, and which they would not read in its present state, if even we were to give it insertion. The letter will be returned if required by the writer on application at this office.

BY the last Overland Mail we received a letter from Mr. Richardson of Cornhill, which we have reprinted below with one of our Calcutta Contemporaries remarks thereon since the time of the receipt of that letter various circumstances have operated to prevent our taking the notice it required of so flagrant an attempt on the part of the Treasury, to set aside an Act of Parliament, and put the whole Indian reading public to a pecuniary vexatious distress. We take leave to invite our Contemporaries and all connected with the Press as well as the Public in general, to unite with us in a sturdy remonstrance against such a prohibitory measure. Agitation seems to be the only way of gaining any public benefit a in these latter days. Let us then put our shoulders to the wheel or like the country men we may call on Jupiter in vain to help us. To the Hero who luxuriates over the U. S. Journal, to the Tory and High Churchman who believes in Blackwood to our "Lovely Fair" who laugh over the pages of the New Monthly, or get a fashion from the Court Journal, we loudly call the former to support us and the latter to use their gentle influence to arouse the ruder sex to stand up for their Periodicals. A Petition should be set afloat and numerously signed for the abolishment of the Tax, and the restoration of the Falmouth route. The world of Science, Art and Fashion is to be veiled from our eyes, or if we lift the curtain it will be at such an expence as none but the wealthy can afford to gratify. Taxes upon knowledge are always unpolitic as well as illiberal. The shillings gained by such a paltry charge could be obained by many a little piece of economy in the Post Departments. We trust our Contemporaries will awake their Editorial Thunders. The Calcutta Editors are in a ferment and we opine would join heartily in any measure for the recision of such an arbitrary and illegal act of the Lords of the Treasury, an act worthy of the Star Chamber days of Charles the First.

"Well! we really never could have imagined that such a procedure would ever have taken place. It must not, it cannot be! What! "prohibit periodicals from being sent in future by Post, unless Postage is paid by weight *as per lettee*". Better had our rulers at once displayed their keen desire to retard the march of intellectual improvement by siezing our types—burning our presses—and, incarcerating our Editors, than by this despicable—this shuffling manner of acting—cause an entire cessation—or, at least an unbearable expence to publishers and Editors, necessitated to receive and send the publications of the day from and to England and other countries. But that our readers may be aware how greatly they are interested in this matter, we present them with the following letter, extracted from the *Bombay Gazette* just received? ! on authenticity of which, we are privately informed, the utmost reliance may be placed :—

"We have received a letter from our Agent Mr. Richardson of Cornhill, which we hasten to lay before our readers. Our Whig Ministerial Treasury orders seem to be held paramount to act of parliament! We have no time now to enter into the merits of the case, as we have too much other matter to discuss more immediately interesting to the public, but we shall return to the subject at an early opportunity, as it is one in which all European Society in this country is deeply concerned. Stop our Periodicals! better stop our passages home!! The following is the subjoined communication :

TO THE EDITOR OF THE BOMBAY GAZETTE.

SIR—It is necessary that I should name to you that the Government have just issued an order from the Treasury prohibiting periodicals from being sent in future by Post, unless Postage is paid by weight, *as per letter*, which, in fact, is no hing less than an absolute prohibition; the question now, therefore arises, whether the Indian community should not seriously take this matter in hand, and petition or remonstrate with Government on the subject; one point is rather singular, viz. that this order from the treasury repeals without Parliament, the act of Parliament under which, for *many* years, all the colonies of Great Britain have been supplied with their periodicals, according to law, how this is permissable, I am unable to say; this step would seem to be illegal, and I have, no doubt, that if the matter was taken up with spirit, and a sufficiently strong pressure be made, the restoration of the Falmouth Route for periodicals will be restored.

I remain Sir, your's truly.
J. W. RICHARDSON.

(*Commercial Advertiser, May* 22)

Indian Intelligence.

CALCUTTA.

GENERAL ORDERS ON SHIP MONEY.

With reference to our remarks on that part of the Hazareebagh soldiers' letter which related to Ship-money, the following General Order of 1830 has been handed to us, and it fully explains the grounds on which that money was not given to the recruits in cash. Captains of Companies can explain to any of their men, who may entertain doubts on the subject, how it has been applied in the present instance. By the way the whole of the regiment will, were they see this, have had read to them the Commander-in-chief's General Order on the subject of desertion, which has already appeared in yesterday's *Military Chronicle*:—

General Orders by the Right Honorable the Governor General in Council.

Fort William, 25th July. 1830.—The Governor General in Council is pleased to direct that the following extracts, paras. 57 to 70 be published. &c. &c.

'69.—You will take particular care that no portion of *the money* due to the recruit be given to the men themselves. It is our desire that the whole may be appropriated to the purpose we have specified, under the orders of Captains of Companies to which the recruits may be posted.

70.—This arrangement will enable you to reduce the amount of advance now made for each recruit, and deducted from his pay for the provision of necessaries

The following paragraph of the Court's letter will show more particularly what it was intended should be done with that balance which was ordered *not* to be given to the soldier in cash; and we have reason to believe, that the arrangements thus made by the Directors have been found by commandants of European corps to be highly conducive to the comfort of the recruit on his first joining his regiment, as his balance of what is termed 'Ship money' soon enables him to wipe off the debt which he has to contract for his kit of *white* clothing; a debt which on previous occasions, we understand, men have been twelve months in liquidating:—

Para. 67. 'The arrangement we have made with respect to debt, renders it unnecessary, that any portion of the recruits' pay should be appropriated to the purchase of separate supplies of tea and sugar, as has hitherto been the practice. The amount of the *balance of cash* due to each recruit on his landing in India, will therefore be increased, and we think it necessary to desire that arrangements may be made for appropriating the amount of *this* balance to the *purchase of necessaries* for the soldier.'—*Englishman, May* 21.

We have been favored with the following copies of letters, from the parties at home, who are engaged in the endeavor to establish a Steam Communication between England and India via the Red Sea. It appears, from the first letter, that Mr. Curtis regards the Precursor scheme as likely to interfere with the Comprehensive, and we have heard from another source, that he is determined to relinquish the latter if the former is persevered in. His secession may by this time therefore, be considered certain, unless the letters of the United Committees should cause an alteration in his purposes—of which there is some hope. In the mean time the Peninsular Steam Navigation Company are steadily pushing their views, and will doubtless sooner or later form a junction with the Company, established on *this* side of the Isthmus of Suez:—

London, 4th April, 1840.

C. B. GREENLAW, ESQ., *Calcutta*.

Sir—Since our last communication, we have received no letters, beyond what have been already replied to.

The Directors await the arrival of the India Mail, due on the 10th instant, to learn the further extent of co-operation to be expected from India, and more especially to know the determination of the Indian Public, in regard to the Precursor Scheme, a measure, which, if persevered in by the people of India, will render ineffective any further proceedings on the part of this Company.

If the expected advices from India should be satisfactory, this Company will take immediate steps to have vessels built and ready to be placed on their respective stations, in the summer of 1841.

Application has been formally made to the respective departments of H. M. Government, in respect of the Charter, and of the contracts which the Directors expect to be in a position to undertake, for the conveyance of the Mediterranean and Indian Mail, periodically.

Estimates have been required of the principal Engineers and Shipbuilders, in order that no delay may take place, and copies of the specification and letters are forwarded herewith. We also enclose a copy of the Chairman's reply to a communication received from the Precursor Committee.

We shall address you more fully by next mail—and remain.

Sir, your most obedient servants.
T. A. CURTIS. *Chairman*.
J. P. LARKINS, *Deputy Chairman*.

Peninsular Steam Navigation Company
Offices, 51, *St. Mary Axe, London*.
the *April*, 1840.

TO THE SECRETARY OF THE NEW BENGAL STEAM FUND. *Calcutta*.

Sir,—We had the honor to address you on the 3d ultimo, by the overland mail, transmitting copy of a paper, handed by our Mr. Anderson to Mr. Jas. McKillop, for the information of the gentlemen, who have for some time been past been agitating here the question of Steam Communication with India.

We now consider it right to communicate to you for the information of those, who take an interest in the matter in Calcutta, that we have up to this date received no answer whatever to that proposition. We are happy, however, to be able to anounce to you that the proposed undertaking is progressin favourably, though quietly. The vessels we have little doubt, will commence running between England and Alexandria in about two months from this time. Connected with this line, it is intended to improve the conveyance across the Isthmus by placing a large and commodious steam vessel on the Nile, and increasing the carriage conveyance between Cairo and Suez The extension of Steam Communication through the Red Sea to Ceylon, Madras, and Calcutta will next engage the attention of the Company, in the establishment of which they have strong assurances of the encouragement, and assistance of the Right Hon'ble President of India Board, and also of the Court of Directors of the East India Company.

The wishes of the community of India in respect to this long contemplated enterprize, may therefore now be considered to be in a fair way of being speedily realized. In the meantime, until a communication by steam vessels can be effected, we beg leave to suggest, whether some approach to an improve means of tranist for passengers to and from Bengal and Madras, might not be made by the running of swift and commodious sailing vessels between Suez and those places. By such means we estimate that, on the average, the passage between Calcutta and England might be made in two months and a half and that although the passengers could not depend on the arrival at Suez always to coincide with the departure of the steamer from Alexandria, yet that they might be calculated in general that they would not experience above a fortnight's difference and that those who might not wish to spend that time in Egypt, would have the opportunity of the French steamers to Marseilles, while who might prefer the direct and superior conveyance adout to be established by this Company would find sufficient objects of interest in Egypt to beguile so short a sojourn. We are aware of the objections, but consider the suggestion in a general view of consideration.

We are, Sir, your most obedt. servt.
WILLCOX AND HENDERSON.

LORD KEANE.

A Correspondent has sent us a long and interesting defence of Lord Keane's military conduct in the last campaign, which we willingly insert. It must be confessed that his measures have been most severely handled, and his character rudely assailed by the Free Press of India, to which His Lordship was no friend, as might well, indeed have been discovered, by the bitter remark he often indulged in, that Sir Charles Metcalfe would learn from experience in Jamaica, what were the blessings of that Free Press, which he had besowed on India. It must be confessed also, that the Press was never so unanious in its censure of any individual, as of Lord Keane. How far those strictures were just, it would, perhaps, be injudicious for us, with our limited opportunities of knowing the truth, to decide. In this, as in other instances, it is very possible that the enemies who were created by private disappointment, or pique or by the wounding of self love, have spread their censure over the whole field of Lord Keane's public services. It is certain, however, that the campaign was crowned with success; and that the management of it has been extolled, not merely by both Houses of Parliament,—who always laud

Digitized with financial assistance from the Government of Maharashtra on 28 June, 2017

by the Great Captain of the age. it arises from success, belongs, un- Lord Keane. It is true that with of one instances, the troops met pposition purely military; but there difficulties which called, in no ordinary or the exercise of military virtues, over he troops triumphed, and for his full share hat conquest, the General in Chief is entitled to the gratitude of his country. From all we have been able to glean regarding the campaign, we should be disposed to think, that the indiscriminate censure which has been passed on His Lordship's character as a soldier is the result rather of prejudice and passion, than of reason, and that the defence of his measures by our Correspondent, is manly, and generally just. If we were disposed to make exceptions, we should select, as the points of disqualification, that strong predominance of personal antipathies, and that frequent indulgence in temperate language and invective, which alienated so many brave men from their commander. An individual to whom a great national enterprize is entrusted, can scarsely escape blame if private feeling is, in the smallest degree, allowed to modify the claims of public duty.

On the merits or demerits of the Hydrabad question, we will not enter. Whether it was better to have compromised matters with the Ameers for twenty-seven lackhs of Rupees, or to have taken Hydrabad, with its hoard of eight millions sterling, must be decided by the future historian; or rather by the historian of future events. At the time of Sir John Keane's advance, when the question of negociation or storm hung in the balance, the main object of the expedition was the conquest of Candahar and Cabul; and it may be questioned how far it would have been wise to have spent a month or six weeks in the subjugation of Scinde. But it is scarely to be doubted, that if the Bombay Army, instead of approaching the country by sea, and trusting, in a great measure, to the chapter of accidents for its supplies, had sarted from our own frontier, overland, with a well equipped Commissariat, towards the Indus, much of the subsequent disasters which arose from stinted rations, would have been avoided. As it was, the Bombay Army was obliged to spunge on the Bengal stores.

Our Correspondent finds fault with the premature advance of the Bengal column through the Bolan Pass. But it is not easy to see what advantage Sir Willoughby Cotton could have reaped from waiting at Dadur, for the junction of the Bombay forces. It was surmised by some military correspondents at the time, that he was not over-anxious to sink back into a General of Division; but such an unworthy motive could not for a moment have had place in his breast. If the result of the advance be well considered, it will be apparent that there is more to be said for it, than against it. As to the "political," coquetting with Mihrab Khan, of Khelat the fact was that the Belochee had swept all provisions into his own granaries, to prevent their falling into our hands; that his own subjects were half starved for food; that our troops were on half rations; the cavalry drooping and dying; the country yielding nothing. In these circumstances, Sir A. Burnes proceeded to Khelat, and formed a treaty with him, of which one of the main stipulations was, that he should supply us with grain. He signed the treaty, behaved with much complaisance, but sent no corn. Doubtless, if his treachery had been as well ascertained then as it was at a future period, the credit of taking Khelat would not have been left to General Willshire. But it would have been scarcely consistent to have made war instantaneously on the man with whom we had just concluded a treaty.

Our Correspondent asks, "was there a whisper from him, Lord Keane, such as the army had already more than once heard with indignation, of Retreat? No." We must here beg him to be more explicit. A statement has been advanced, and diligently circulated, that when difficulties gathered thick around the army at Quetta, the officers held a council upon the propriety of retreating. We have the strongest reason for giving an open and unreserved contradiction to this assertion. If there be any one who was present at such a meeting, let him point out the time and the place, and let him furnish the names of the officer who assisted at at. Let not the Odium of such irresolution rest on the Army of the Indus. If our Correspondent has no authority for the statement, but common rumour, let us know the fact, and we shall know how to guide our belief.

"The grateful exclamation of Sir John Keane, in the first flush of victory at Ghuznee, Thank God that the men behaved so well, alluding to their conduct towards the helpless women left at their mercy during the storm," does him credit. The men behaved as British soldiers have, perhaps, never behaved before, in a situation in which neither property nor honour is usually safe. And to what is this to be attributed, but to the *absence of spirits*? For many weeks, the Army had, from sheer necessity, been transformed into a vast Temperance Society, because the Commissariat had no rum left; hence the storming of Ghuznee afforded instance of forbearance on the part of the sol- , unparalleled in the annals of British war- . It is to be hoped, therefore, that Lord will be induced in future to look with more complacency on a cause which has given so bright a lustre to own laurels.

We cannot add our concurrence in the last sentence of the letter. We are willing to concede to Lord Keane all the credit of having conducted an army to victory, under circumstances of peculiar trial, but few will regret that he did not assume the office of Commander-in-Chief. Truth demands the confession, that there was little in his disposition, temper or bearing, which would have conciliated the officers of the Indian Army. Matters have been much better arranged as they are. The Hero of Ghuznee has retired to his native land, with his silver head covered with honours; and the army is placed under the mild, but firm and just sway of our present Chief.—*Friend of India, May* 21.

POLICE OFFICE,—MAY 19.

MERRY MAKING IN A PUBLIC HOUSE WITH THE CONSEQUENCES THEREOF.

The office of the Deputy Superintendent of the Police was crowded this morning by several ladies and gentlemen, who had on the previous night been revelling and making merry in a public house kept by Mr. Michael Murphey, a slim, middle-aged gentleman, with a sharp little face stuck into a huge black stock. They were led to make this unexpected visit to the office, in consequence of a complaint being lodged there by Mr. Wm. Green, a red faced gentlemen with one eye, and a small stumpy wife, to the effect that during his stay at the public house, on the occasion of the flare up, two notes, to the amount of 75 rupees, were abstracted from his pocket.

It appeared that during the night a select party were collected at Mr. Murphey's consisting of Mr. and Mrs. Green, Mrs. Eliza Manning, an Irish dame, who, during her sojourn in Calcutta, has more than once rendered public service in the House of Correction; Mrs. Elizabeth Hobson a chubby English lass, who combined in her person the manifold recommendations of beauty, youth and easy virtue, a thick set cockney known by the *subrequet* of "Happy Jack," the host himself, and one or two more. They had all assembled together, and after liberal potations, Mr. Green and Mrs. Hobson stood up to "trip it on the light fantastic toe," and for the want of better music, Mrs. Manning struck up, or rather *whistled* to the tune of "Jack's the lad." Thus was music and dancing added to the conviviliaties of the occasion—Mrs. Manning whistled, Mr. Green laid hold of Mrs. Hobson, and Mrs. Hobson laid hold of Mr. Green in return, and they both waltzed and whirled, and danced and perspried, to the infinite satisfaction of themselves, and amusement of the company. Shortly after the dancing and whistling ceased, bottles and glasses were resumed, the one being frequently *filled* and the other is fast *emptied*, till the heads instead of the *feet* of the company began to dance. The consequence of all this convivialty proved, that before long Mr. Green reached to that degree of inebriety vulgarly called "dead druuk, and was therefore soon "fast locked" in the joint chains of Bacchus and Morpheus, And thus fast locked he remained till the next morning, when missed the notes, which, to the best of his belief and recollection, he had with him in his pocket, before he laid him down and slept.

Mrs. Manning, on being called upon to account for the disappearance of the notes, wrung her hands frantically and solemnly declared that she had not touched them, and that at the present moment she had nothing in the world but *herself*. She delicately hinted, however, that Mrs. Hobson, while dancing with Mr. Green, had hold of him in the immediate vicinity of his pocket.

Mrs. Hobson in her defence wrung her hands, shook her head and then fervently declared, that she knew no more about the notes than a new born babe, and wound up this emphatic defence with a flood of tears; but Mrs. Hobson being a woman, hers were without doubt, as the poets say, "woman's tears."

Mr. Michael Murphey, on being taxed, first turned up the whites of a pair of gaggle eyes, then languished a bit and lastly tried to look a very ill-used person, and after having performed all these several ocular evolutions, very briefly something to the effect that phe knew nothing at all about the notes.

Thus then it appeared a difficult matter to arrive at any discovery in regard to the loss of the notes, and in consequence the parties were requested to retire for a short time. The case had not been in *statu quo* long when in came "Happy Jack" in breathless haste, with something closely folded in his hand, intimating that he had been instituting search for the notes since the morning, and after several hours fatigue had just then been rewarded for his pains, by discovering the notes wrapt in a blue rag and stock into a "rat hole," which said "rat hole," was situated in an empty room of Mr. Murphey's house.

On examination it farther appeared, that the handkerchief contained in Mr. Murphey's hat and the rag covering the notes found in the "rat hole," were of the same colour and pattern, and that the latter must have time or another belonged and pertained to the former.

Thus much of the affair is shown, and it stands over for further enquiry, but it is doubtful if the world will ever hear father about the adventures of Mr. Green's notes or this merry party.—*Hurkaru, May* 22.

THE RUSSIAN EXPEDITION.

As, at this juncture everything, which relates to the march of the Russian Army upon Khiva has, doubtless, some interest for our readers, we give a conspicuous place to the following extract from a letter of a Russian Officer, dated January 17, which has been published in the *Breslau Gazette*. It contains a detailed account of the trials to which the detachment under General Petroski has been subjected on its passage to Ak-Boulak, the outlines of which we gave in our paper of Tuesday last, translated from the *Petersburgh Journal*:—

'A Russian Officer attached to the expedition against Khiva, writes to the *Breslau Gazette* from the camp at Emba, on January 17th, a letter, from which we take the following extracts:—

'Small detachments have been posted on the steppes at two points, one 315 and the other 428 miles from the Russian frontier. Each of these is well fortified, and is a depot for provisions and forage. At about 225 miles from the last, which is called Ak Bulak, rises the plateak of the mountains which separate the Caspain Sea from Lake Aral, and border the western shore of the lake with a girdle of rocks, 700 feet high, nearly perpendicular and accessible in only a few places. Springs are to be found only at a distance from each other of 270 miles: affording to the traveller and his camels but a scanty supply of water, and that brackish. It is from the southern side only that one can descend into the Oasis of Khiva, which is fertile and diversified with habitations and water-courses. The little time we had before us, and the difficulty of procuring necessaries in this frightful desert, admitted of the equipment of only a comparatively inconsiderable corps, and the more so as, on account of the want of water, the expedition could only be undertaken in the winter. The troops therefore have been compelled to provide themselves with numerous articles, besides fuel which they might have dispensed with at a different season. They have required 10,000 camels for the purpose of enabling them to transport the provisions and ammunition. Our convoy, when on its march, occupies a pace of 500 paces in length by 250 in breadth. The infantry and artillery march at the head followed by the train. When they reach a defile the infantry occupies the most commanding points, while the cavalry keeps order among the Khirghis, who lead the camels. It is a singular spectacle to see this mass from a distance commencing its march at the first dawn of day. In general, six or eight camels are attacked in a string, each fastened by the nose. The treatment of these useful animals is one of our greatest cares. At 2 o'clock every afternoon, we make a halt for the purpose of allowing them and our horses to graze, and notwithstanding the depth of the snow, they find an abundance of pasture underneath it. After bringing in the camels, the Kirghis, clear away the snow around their huts, and spread blankets for these and the other beasts of burthen to lie upon, for one night passed on the snow would render them unserviceable. While this is doing other men are cutting rushes which make excellent fuel. If they find none they must make use of the wood supplied for cooking, or bivouac the night through without fire. Under all circumstances, however, the attention paid to the comforts of the troops is excellent. Soup is given out to the men morning and evening, and when it is extremely cold, a drink made of honey seasoned with pepper and other spices; nor is brandy spared. We make no other halt than that which I have mentioned; but the soldiers in turn are allowed to mount the camels, and when on their backs produce a picturesque effect. Still the difficulties we have to overcome are unparalleled. Imagine us on this painful march, encumbered with a burthenstone mass of clothing, over a trackless waste covered with a thick coat of snow. Conceive our feelings when the reveillée sounds at two in the morning and our pain in having to load the camels while our limbs are stiff with cold. During some days past the thermometer has been down as low as 34 degrees below zero of Reaumur, 45 below the zero point of Fahrenheit, and never has been higher than 12 below zero, R., or 5 degrees above zero, F. But it is from the snow-drifts that we suffer most. They come with a violance unknown in Europe, and seem to be sent to sweep all intruders from the face of the land. When we reflect that our men have, for upwards of two months, had no prospect but an arid and virgin soil, their moral and physical courage cannot be sufficiently admitted. Not only has the number of our sick been very small, but not one of our men has been frost bitten, and our tents are pitched, our soldiers become full of life and gaiety, and sing the joyous airs of their native country. Whatever may be the issue of this expedition, its conquest over the unexampled obstacles of such a march of 900 miles will be cited as one of the most glorious military feats of ancient and modern times. Our correspondence with Orenburg is carried on by the Kirghis, who travel between 80 and 60 miles a-day, going singly or at most in couples, using alternately two or three horses. They traverse the desert in the most frightful weather, braving the wolves, and the still more savage brigands. As they can carry no fuel with them, they make a shelter for themselves at night by forming cavities in the snow. Their only food is a species of cheese made of sheep's milk which is very hard, and in small quantities. The view of the steppes by which we are surrounded is sombre and monotonous in the extreme. Here and there near the streams are to be seen some mountains totally bare, and on the plains a few scattered tufts of dwarfish alders or willows. Here it is that, we have killed a few wild boars; the only other animals to be found on the steppes are foxes, beavers, badgers, and marmots, or mountain-rats, and whole legions of mice. White partridges and a non-descript species of larks are the only birds which people the air of this inhospitable region.—*Hurkaru, May* 21.

CELEBRATION OF THE QUEEN'S NUPTIALS AT NEEMUCH.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ENGLISHMAN.

Dear Sir,—I send you a brief account, of the '*Celebration* of the *Queen's Nuptials*', which took place *at Neemuch*', on Friday, the first of the *merry month* of *May*; and I may venture to say, that no where, in this '*Land of the Sun* could more genuine Loyalty have been displayed, than was shown on that occasion. General Haumpton and Staff. the Political Agent, and all the Officers of the different Corps, Artillery. Cavalry, Infantry, and Locals, united, in voting a Dinner, Ball and Supper to *the Ladies*, in commemoration of the joyful event. The Assembly Rooms were prepared, with a degree of taste, highly creditable to the Officers engaged in the work. The colours of the different Infantry Corps, were hung on the side walls of the Theatre, now used as the Dinner Room; the Standards of the Cavalry, or rather *Lancers*, were placed at the top; with a Lancer, in full dress, under each; and facing them, the Artillery banners, intermixed with Lances, (crossed,) were arranged on the stage in front of the drop scene, which represented a rich Wood or Grove. The rooms were kept delightfully cool, by numerous tatties, through which the Westerly Winds continued to blew. About 8 o'clock, the Company sat down to a sumptuous dinner, at which, Dr. Mellis, as Chairman, presided; assisted by Major Marshall, Croupier; and six Stewards, chosen as representatives of their different corps. Of the Ladies' dresses, it is needless to say, that they were chastely elegant, and every way befitting the occasion; while the President and Stewards, were decorated, each, with a broad riband and rosette of white satin; emblematical of the occasion. During dinner, the excellent band of the 30th Regiment played the choicest airs; and nothing but hilarity and cheerfulness beamed from every countenance. The wines, which generally heighten such enjoyments, were of first-rate, quality, and well cooled; so that it may, with truth, be said, that nothing was wanting, but *more Ladies*, to add to the gaiety and lustre of the scene. After the cloth was removed, the Chairman proposed the health of our Most Gracious, and Lovely Queen *Victoria*, &c. &c. &c. The toast was responded to, not only by the loudest and most enthusiastic cheers; but the whole party remained standing, and joining in the national anthem; whilst the band was playing it. A more *heart-stirring* scene, has seldom been witnessed—it was *truly electrical*! His Royal Highness, *Prince Albert's* health, was next given; and received with great applause and delight; as were, also, the following toasts, from the *chair*—The Queen Dowager and Royal family! 'Earl Auckland, the Governor General of India,' &c. &c. 'His Excellency Sir Jasper Nicolls, Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Army.' After this the party, generally, retired to the drawing room; where dancing commenced with great spirit; and would most likely, have continued for hours; but for the alarm being given of a Bungalow being on fire, at no great distance. This took away some gentlemen; and the ladies, thinking there was '*no place like home*,' on such occasions, took their departure. An excellent supper followed, about half past 12, and in an hour or so after not a guest remained. You may, dear Sir, insert this as you please, but the *sooner* the *better*, as we take a little credit for being *amongst* the *first*, to show our Loyalty to our Sovereign!

I am, dear Sir, your's truly,
ONE OF YOUR SUBSCBIBERS.

Neemuch, 8th May, 1840.

Yesterday's Semaphore announced the arrival of the *Countess Minto*, Wishart, from Table Bay 28th March; the *North Britains*, Adam, from Sydney 3rd March.—*Commercial. Adverti zer, May* 22.

American letters of the 18th March, which we have seen, reached town on the night of the 20th instant—being only sixty-three days between Philadelphia and Calcutta!—It's the 'Steam wot does it all,' as Wackford Squeers would say.—*Englishman, May* 22.

We have been informed by a friend that a letter has been received from Herat, dated 7th April, mentioning that every thing was quiet there; that Lieutenant Abbott had gone from Khiva to St. Petersburgh, and that an envoy from Khiva had reached Herat on his way to Cabul.

We believe the first and third fact, but the second strikes us as problematical. Lieutenant Abbott at St. Petersburgh! *Que diable alloit il faire dansette galere!—Ibid.*

We hear that a son of Thomas Moore, the poet, is coming to India as a Cadet. A writership for his son would we should have thought, have been within the reach of one who has so steadily adhered to his political party, independently of his separate claims as a man of uncommon genius; but we believe the young man has a military penchant and preferred the charms of the cantonment to the luxury of the cutcherry. On the arrival of Tom Moore's son, India will be able to boast that she has provided for the progeny of four of the first poets of Great Britain,—Barns, Walter Scott, Allan Cunningham, and the author of Lalla Rookh.—*Ibid.*

From references to various announcements of 'fashionable movements,' connected with the high places of the minor presidencies, we have come to the conclusion that the following is somewhere about the manner in which their high and mighty functionaries are at this time functionising:—

Madras Council.—Lord Elphinstone and Mr. Sullivan, Neilgherries; Mr. Lushington, absent sick, and Sir S. W. Wittingham, on the high seas.

Madras Secretaries.—Military at Madras, Civil Chief at Ootacamund.

Bombay Council.—Sir J. Carnac, at Mahableshwar, Sir T. McMahon, Poonah; Mr. Farish and Mr. Anderson, Bombay.

One Secretary with the Governor, and two with the Council.—*Ibid.*

Much surprise is expressed that scarcely any notice has been taken of the departure (from England) of the fleet of men-of-war for China. The fact, we believe, is that the vessels (excepting the *Pique*, whose departure we noticed two days ago) have sailed under secret orders or without making known their destination at the ports of departure. The following scrap from a Portsmouth paper of the 21st March, serves in some measure to confirm this belief:—

'Sailed on Saturday, the *Nemesis*, private armed steamer Hall, master, destination unknown. It is said this vessel is provided with an Admiralty letters of license, or letter of marque; if so, it can only be against the Chinese; and for the purpose of smuggling opium she is admirably adapted. Others conjecture she is going to Circassia for sale, as she is also well suited to defend a port, or for offensive operations in shallow water.'—*Ibid.*

NORTH WESTERN PROVINCES.

(*From the Agra Ukhbar, May* 23.)

We believe we have at last obtained some thing authentic regarding the Russian movement upon Khiva. By a letter from a very intelligent observer at Cabool, we learn that the Russian Army reached Khiva about the 20th March; they halted on the borders of the Steppes for some weeks in consequence of the great quantities of snow that had fallen, they then came down the sea of Aral and with little difficulty arrived at Khiva. Their arrangements were well made and their march admirably conducted, so much so, that it is said, they have neither lost a man nor a beast. Their force is considered to amount to near 30,000 men and 12 batteries of Artillery. Abbot is going to St. Petersburgh. Some Usbecks who have just arrived from Balkh, say that the King of Bokhara has beheaded Dost Mahomed and his 2 sons. Dr. Lord has been ordered to raise a corps of pioneers at Bamian, and some Officers are shortly to leave this to survey, and if necessary, to fortify the passes of the Hindoo Koosh. It is supposed a force will shortly leave this to act against the Gilzees; as the Brigade at Candahar when ordered out, wrote back they had got no carriage and cannot move consequently, the Doomed Brigade as they facetiously call themselves, have had nothing whatever to do, while our troops at Caubul have been knocked about all over the country, and have to make near 20 marches to get near the refractory Gilzees, while the troops at Candahar are within 6 marches of them. Notwithstanding that we have 7,000 *soldiers in Affghanistan*, besides the contingent, the Politica's find they have not sufficient troops to keep down insurrection. So much for tranquility being restored in Affghanistan. Sir W. Macnaghten's King, declares he will go back to Loodianah if a large subsidiary Force is not kept in this country. His Majesty is very partial to the British and as long as he sees a large Force encamped by him, feels his royal person quite safe, sleeps, eats and holds his Durbar without fear, and now and then rides through the large Bazar to show himself to his loving subjects, when his Hindustani servants call out God save the King. Sir W. Macnaghten, Envoy at the Court of Shah Soojah-ool-Moolk, then writes a public despatch to Government informing them that H. M. reception was most enthusiastic.

THE LATE LIEUT. GIBBARD, BOMBAY ARMY.

"Grand Juries often eject bills against persons, "who, if tried before a Petit Jury, would be brought "in guilty; and Petit Juries often acquit those "against whom the Grand Jury have found true "bills."

To the Editor of the Agra Ukhbar.

Sir,—Cannot you, who are generally before your Contemporaries with Bombay news, give any of the particulars of the case of the unfortunate gentlemen, whose name I have prefixed to this letter. The extracts of the Court Martial held upon him, which have been published in most of the papers, excited interest and commiseration in the breast of every Officer, with whom I have conversed on the subject. But that interest I am afraid by many persons, who permit their opinions to be affected by every report they hear, will be turned to the prejudice of Mr. Gibbard, from the manner in which his forthcoming trial before the Supreme Court of Bombay, has been announced in the *Delhi Gazette*, unintentionally I have no doubt.

All at this station are under the impression, that Mr. Gibbard's offence was having executed certain prisoners taken in arms against the State upon insufficient authority, which he conceived himself bound to obey. By the *Delhi Gazette*, if I mistake not its statement, it would appear, that Mr. Gibbard had simply captured certain young men returning from a nautch, and deliberately ordered them to be shot; a report containing a charge of such atrocity against these unfortunate persons, who lately held a commission in the Indian British Army, and of a na-

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ture so likely to raise indignation in the mind of every Englishman, as almost to prevent the possibility of his being tried by an impartial, or rather unprejudiced Jury. I trust whenever you learn further particulars of this unhappy gentleman, you will lose no time in laying them before your readers.

Yours obediently,
A QUEEN'S OFFICER.

Meerut, 17th May 1840.

The following Memo. shewing the distribution of H. M.'s and H. C.'s Troops in Afghanistan on the 1st June 1840, may be useful to our readers.

Head-Quarters, Cabool, Sir W. Cotton, G. G. B., *Commanding.*

Captain Abbot's Battery.	1 Ressalah Irregular Horse.
2nd Regt. Light Cavalry.	H.M.'s 13th Lt. Infantry
	2nd Regt. N. I. 35th and 37th.

Kajah, Colonel Wheeler, C. B. *Commanding.*

1st European Regiment.	48th Regiment N. I.
Ghuznee, Lieut.-Colonel McLaren, Commanding.	
16th Regiment N. I.	1 Ressalah Irregular Horse.

Bameean.
4th Troop 3rd Brigade Horse Artillery.
Candahar, General Nott.

1 Company Foot Artillery.	2 Ressalahs Irregular Horse.
	42nd and 43rd Regts. N. I.

SHAH SOOJAH'S FORCE.
Cabool.
1st Cavalry and 1 Regiment Infantry.
Candahar.
2nd Cavalry & 3 Regts. Infy.—2 Troops Horse Artillery.
Bameean.
1 Regiment Infantry.

MADRAS.

On dit that the 8th Native Infantry will be sent on to China on the arrival of the 37th at Singapore, and that more Regiments will be required for the Eastward service from this Presidency.—*Herald, May* 23.

We learn from a contemporary that the ex-Nabob of Kurnool has reached Trichinopoly, the place appointed for his confinement, and is safely lodged in the Fort of that town. He will there have abundant leisure to reflect upon his perfidy towards the Company's government, and his rashness in measuring his strength with British troops, and may sing with one of olden time,

"Farewell, a *long* farewell to all my greatness."—*Ibid.*

The subscriptions to the New Bank scheme are getting on admirably. Up to Thursday last no less than 1127 shares, or more than a third of the whole number required, have been taken. Of these we give particulars at foot. There can be now no doubt, we think, but that within a very short time the subscription list will be entirely filled up. Very few of the native community have yet come forward,—not more than three or four individuals. When this important and wealthy portion of the public get awakened to a sense of the advantages that are likely to accrue from connexion with this joint stock undertaking, we expect to see a numerous body of them pressing forward to add their names to those already registered.—*Ibid.*

European Intelligence.

MORE OF THE SHERIFF FARCE.

After the precedent of Mr. Sheriff Wheelton's release because his neck was too short to keep long in custody, we have rather wondered, we confess, at the quiescence of Mr. Sheriff Evans. There are few men past the meridian of life who on taking a careful survey of their persons and constitutions, cannot find something amiss. We have not all of us necks enabling us to defy the House of Commons with impunity, but dyspepsia, gout, rheumatism, sciatica, lumbago, are so common that it is a marvel to find any one unprovided with an ailment of some such sort at a pinch, and there is no disorder for which imprisonment can be good or other than detrimental.

But at last Mr. Sheriff Evans is provided with a disorder. On Monday Lord Mahon stated that Mr. Sheriff Evans was suffering from a liver complaint, and that his life would be endangered from further confinement. This representation his Lordship made on the authority of the medical attendant of the Sheriff, whose name, very appropriately to the occasion, is Freeman.

Mr. Warburton justly observed:—

"On the last occasion the House had been taken by surprise. They all felt exceedingly sorry, as individuals, for the inconvenience to which the Sheriffs had been subjected by their confinement; but it was on general principles that they thought it necessary to subject those gentlemen to confinement. Take any other case. Suppose the two individuals confined in Warwick gaol, in consequence of a riot at Birmingham. It was proved, by correspondence which had been laid before the House, that the health of those two individuals had been most seriously endangered What was the course pursued by the government upon the representations which were made? The surgeon of the gaol was the person appointed to investigate and inquire into the health of those individuals. It was only after very long continued representations of the bad health of the individuals that the medical adviser, who had been accustomed to visit them was allowed, as a great indulgence, to have access to the prisoners to examine into their state of health. He would, therefore, beg of the House to observe the difference between this way of treating prisoners in custody for offences against the laws when their health was endangered, and the summary mode of proceeding which was now proposed."

Lord John Russell was of opinion that

"They should either pursue the course recommended by the hon. member for Bridport, and have the medical person examined to-morrow, or, what he thought would be for some reasons preferable, the medical person should be now examined, and that his evidence should be taken down, printed, and taken into consideration to-morrow. It did not seem that the lapse of 24 hours could make any very great difference with regard to the Sheriff's health. Of the two courses he thought it better that Mr. Freeman should be called in now, and his evidence taken."

Mr. O'Connell reminded the House of the true bearings of the question. The Sheriff continues voluntarily in contempt, he makes no submission, his imprisonment is the consequence of his own choice. Mr. O'Connell observed:—

"The only way of enforcing their privileges was by imprisonment If it was to be got rid of on the allegation of ill-health, by any person who still continued his contempt towards the House, while he knew that his liberation upon submission would be instantaneous, the maintenance of their privileges would be impossible. It was not the House which now detained the Sheriff, but his own wilfulness. At the present moment he did not even come forward with a petition. There was no application from him He did not come forward stating any scruple of conscience, and at the same time representing his ill-health, and leaving his case in the hands of the House. He submitted to the House that their power of maintaining their privileges was a mockery if they suffered them to be frittered away in this manner."

Mr. Freeman was called in, and his evidence amounted to this: that Mr. Evans had a disordered liver, but there was so little urgency in the cause that no other medical adviser had been called in; that as for air and exercise, such opportunity as the Sheriff was allowed of taking both he did not avail himself of because of the east wind, which, as we imagine, blows as keenly on persons at liberty as on those in duresse under the authority of the House of Commons.

"Do you think (asked Mr. Elliot) that if Mr. Sheriff Evans were allowed to take air and exercise, and then to return to the House of Commons, that would answer his purpose?—*I think not, for his mind is suffering.* (A laugh, and cries of 'Hear, hear,' and 'Order.')"

This question touched closely upon the object of the sick and suffering Sheriff, who will not be content to return to the House after air and exercise, and will be satisfied with nothing short of being returned to it. For it appears that the gentleman dying of a liver complaint was at that very instant a candidate for the borough of Lewes, and if his confinement was bad for his liver, it was, as his friends said, good for his electioneering interests. We quote from the *Times*:—

"In consequence of the death of Sir Charles Blunt, one of the representatives of the borough of Lewes, Mr Sheriff Evans, at the suggestion of several influential friends, has been induced to offer himself to the electors of that borough as a candidate to represent them in Parliament, and active measures are in progress to effect that object The Sheriff being a close prisoner within the walls of the House of commons cannot of course avail himself of the opportunity of canvassing the electors in person; but, considering the circumstances under which he is incarcerated, and the firm and manly part he has taken in upholding the laws and maintaining in violate his oath of office, *it is believed that his absence on this occasion will rather conduce to his success than operate against him* as it is well known that the independent electors of Lewes entertain a strong opinion upon the privilege question in favour of law and justice. The following, we understand, is the address of the Sheriff to the electors of Lewes:—

"'TO THE ELECTORS OF THE BOROUGH OF LEWES.

"'Gentlemen.—The lamented death of your late worthy representative, Sir Charles Blunt, has caused a vacancy in your ancient borough, and, at the request of numerous friends, I hasten to announce my intention of offering myself as candidate to represent you in the Commons' House of Parliament. Visited with imprisonment, and deprived of that personal liberty which has ever been the birthright of Englishmen, for no crime but that of having, in obedience to the laws and observance of my oath, discharged the duties of the high office of Sheriff of Middlesex, I feel that no apology will be necessary for not paying my respects to you in person upon this occasion. Should I, however, have the honour of being returned as your representative, I can assure that the personal liberty to which, by your suffrages, I shall be restored, will still be held by me subservient to your rights and interests; and I trust I may confidently appeal to your experience of my readiness to sacrifice my own personal comfort and liberty to the faithful guarantee that the best interests of the electors of Lewes and their rights and liberties will lose nothing by being confided to the trust of your obedient and faithful servant.

WILLIAM EVANS.

"'House of Commons, March 3.'"

So that the very day on which Mr. Freeman, the surgeon, was making such a piteous representation of the state of Mr. Evans, the worthy gentleman was putting forth his claims for a trust, the duties of which require no small portion of health and vigour. A finer piece of fudge than this was never attempted, and a most dignified historian of it has been Lord Mahon.

If the case had been but little more plausible, or a little less glaringly preposterous, the House was evidently disposed, as usual in all cases in which gentlemen are concerned, to the melting mood.

The thing to be desired is the understanding of the principle which is to govern questions of this kind. Let the public know the rule, and prepare itself accordingly. Let the grounds of impunity be distinctly specified, so that men may know whether it is or it is not competent to their to despise the authority of the Commons with impunity. Proclaim at once that persons with maladies which may be aggravated by confinement may trample as they please on the orders of the Commons, and for convenience they should be permitted to plead their ailments at the bar, and in consideration of them be entitled to an instant discharge. Extending the application of the same principle to other tribunals, (and there is no reason why it should be confined to the Courts of Parliament), no persons who are not in rude health should be punished for any offence.

The convenience of the arrangement we propose will be felt when the difficulty in which the House will be placed when Mr. Sheriff Wheelton repeats his contempt, as he is pledged to do, upon the recurrence of the occasion, is considered. If the House propose to commit him again, he has only to desire them to look at his neck, and to observe that it has not grown longer since they discharged him because of its shortness. The reason for impunity once admitted, must hold good for ever.

Parents are often heard, in considering the destination of their children, to express fears that they are not strong enough for certain vocations; but if the doctrine which we see gaining ground obtains much more head, a wonderful field will be opened for pursuits of profit or pleasure against the law by persons having the advantage of bad health; and projects of this sort will be common—

"Willy's health is so feeble that I shall bring him up for sedition; he will have a fine field in the anti-poor law agitation without any fear of imprisonment; John's neck is so short that I hope to see him a Sheriff, and intend him to be an attorney in the anti-privilege line of business, which, with his configuration, he must prosecute without any danger of incarceration by the House of Commons. Harry is of so very delicate a constitution that I am almost tempted to make a chief of him, for there is nothing he could not do with impunity, as sentence of imprisonment would obviously be sentence of death to him. The dear fellow would be sure of every indulgence in felony."

On Wednesday Lord Mahon moved that Dr. Chambers, who had visited the Sheriff, should be hailed to the bar of the House and examined. A cue example of the differences between doctors followed.

Mr. Freeman had asserted most positively that the Sheriff never had the gout—Dr Chambers stated that he had recently had a fit of the gout. The Doctor's account of Mr Evans was as follows:—

"He is obviously labouring under ill health. His appearance shows it. I conceive his ill health to arise from the imperfect state of his digestive organs. He is of an unhealthy aspect of body. He is bilious-looking and gouty. I understand he has suffered from a severe fit of the gout recently."

As to the effect of prolonged confinement, the Doctor spoke thus oracularly—

"Do you consider that his life will be endangered by further confinement?—I think his health will be much deteriorated by his confinement. I conceive that further confinement might convert the present disorder, or defect of his digestive organs, into absolute disease. For instance, if indigestion is continued for a length of time, the liver becomes disordered, and when the defect of digestion is continued, the disorder becomes disease, which we know *may* lead to dropsy, and all the dangers of dropsy."

In an affair of this kind a physician always treats the case as seriously as possible, and supposes every possible bad turn of it, and Dr. Chambers, with his *ifs* and his *mays*, has made the most of it. In a second examination he made some statements which we are tempted to transcribe. They are such as would have occurred to Moliere, if he had imagined a scene of the kind—

"Will you incur the responsibility of saying that a further confinement for six weeks longer or for a shorter period, will produce disease?—I cannot fix the time as to when disease may be produced. *I do not like to incur the responsibility of saying that confinement for a longer time will produce disease.*"

This is prudent; what follows is confident and bold—

"Do you think it necessary, in reference to the present state of Mr. Sheriff Evans, that some relaxation of his close confinement should be immediately had?—I doubt whether *anything short of absolute freedom would place him in the condition which he should want.*"

This is the sort of logic of which fortune-tellers make use. As the Sheriff wants his freedom, nothing short of his freedom will place him in the condition he wants. The reasoning may be carried a step farther; as the Sheriff wants to sit for Lewes, nothing short of sitting for Lewes will place him in the condition which he wants.

Here is another profound answers—

"Did you find the room in which he is confined one that would materially interfere with his health?—That, and a crowd of persons being in it, might interfere with his health."

Dr. Chambers might have said more—he might have save said that *if* the room in which the Sheriff is confined were as much crowded as the black hole in Calcutta, the Sheriff would be in imminent danger of suffocation. If the Sheriff chooses to receive a throng of persons in his chamber, whose fault is that? The detriment to his health is the price which he pays for the vulgar *éclat* for which he is acting.

A sensible physician in this case would have prescribed a draft for 600l.

If Mr. Evans's health or his life be in any danger he is voluntarily endangering his own health and life. He has only to purge himself of his contempt and to obtain his liberty. Lord Howick compared the Sheriff's case to that of Thorogood; but there is this difference, that Thorogood had not the means of paying the costs of proceeding in the Ecclesiastical Court, to which he imprudently gave notice of appeal. In the Sheriff's case there is no such embarrassment.

And if Thorogood were at the point of death in consequence of his incarceration, how would the Ecclesiastical Court treat an appeal *ad miseri codiram*. It would answer, that the case was not in its hands—that Thorogood's imprisonment was the result of his own choice, and that if his life were to be the sacrifice, his obstinacy would be his destroyer.

Lord Howick has suggested that the Sheriff may be transferred, in the custody of an officer of the House, to some place better for his health than the air of Westminster. We doubt whether he will thank Lord Howick for this grace, for in the country he will lack the levees and the nonsences of the mock martyrdom. But if Lord Howick's proposal be adopted, let him be sent to Cheltenham gaol. We have not a doubt, however that he will be able to bring forward a medical witness who will prove that the only spot in England favourable to the restoration of his health is Lewes.

And here, we must confess that, if the electors of Lewes follow the example of the House of Commons and treat the care of their privileges as of secondary concern to the preservation of the Sheriffs health, they must certainly elect Mr. Evans, for as the ease and tranquility of his mind are quite essential to the recovery of his digestive organs, and the abatement of the disorder of his liver, it is quite clear that the rejection of him would have a bad effect on his health, and might tend to shorten his life. Unquestionably Mr. Sheriff Evans will bring forth Mr Freeman or Dr. Chambers on the hustings, to prove that the electors will be the death of him if they do not choose him; and how awful to a constituency of Christians must be the responsibility of such a murder.

Electors as well as members, may think themselves bound to regard the health of an individual as more important than a great public trust.

And hear let us suggest, that if [illegible] world is at all like the House of C[illegible] be of excellent use, in canvassing [illegible] tor about to tell the voters tha[illegible] has a short neck, or a large liver, [illegible] they don't choose him, they will be [illegible] him, for in the one case he will fall [illegible] fit, with the shock, if he be not at the he[illegible] poll, and in the other he will die of indige[illegible] or the jaundice.

The House of Commons justly claims the authority of a high Court of Parliament; but it ill supports the dignity which it claims when it permits of a debate of two nights on the question whether imprisonment is good for the constitution of a prisoner committed for a contempt in which he chooses to persist.

The defenders of the priveliges of the Commons know that they are in the right; but they suffer these follies because they are afraid of doing what they know to be right, lest they should be thought in the wrong by unreflecting people. Of all apprehensions this is the most pusillanimous, and unworthy of men who have the care of a great trust, and the conduct of a great cause.

Lord John Russell and Sir Robert Peel both repeatedly pledged themselves not to have recourse to a Declaratory Bill till they had exhausted in vain all the powers of the House; but though the powers of the House have as yet not proved wanting (the resolution of those who wield them having only failed), a Bill is to be proposed by which the certificates of the Lord Chancellor and the Speaker are to authorise the publications of their respective Houses, and to restrain proceedings in any Court of Law.

The first objection to this measure is, that it will not be got.

The second objection is, that asking for it is an admission that the Commons have either laid claim to an authority they did not possess or have been defeated in the attempt to establish it—an admission ruinously weakening the case of the House, and disabling it from any future effective measures for the protection of the privilege in dispute.

The third objection is, that if the Bill were passed by the Lords, it will leave undisturbed the decision of the Court of Queen's Bench invading the privilege of the House. After this encouragement the liberty of speech may be next attacked, and a special enactment proposed to license it under the certificates of the Chancellor and the Speaker.

We see in this proposal a repetition of the first fault. It is like the experiment of pleading to the first action, the error to which all the embarrassment in which the House has been involved is referable. Our leaders were warned not to make that fatal concession; but they would not be advised, for nothing is so easy to them at the moment as yielding, and they never extend their views to the difficulties which grow out of imprudent concessions that stave off the embarrassment for the day, and increase and complicate it tenfold in the next stage of its recurrence.

We shall see this folly over again, and when the fruitlessness and mischievousness of it appear, then our sages, with their fingers in their mouths, will cry, "Who would have thought it?"

To borrow the homely figure of Swift, they are going an errand of ten miles to suck a bull.

The Solicitor General, in a powerful speech, has given them most emphatic warning of the error they are about to commit.

"He was anxious, while he endeavoured to guard them against doing anything prejudicial to the public interests of the country, to abstain from offering anything likely to embarrass the course of the government; but after reflecting on this subject, he could not but feel the most painful apprehension as to the result that he feared would follow from the course proposed. (Hear, hear,) He could not but feel strongly, because he believed that the government was mistaken on this subject, and that the measure that night proposed, so far from relieving them from the embarrassment in which they were placed, would tend greatly to aggravate and increase that embarrassment (hear, hear, hear), and also tend to inflict a deep and permanent wound on the privileges of that house. (Hear, hear.) The proceedings which had taken place on the part of Stockdale would by no means be prevented in consequence of an enactment on the score of asserting their privilege; for they had already determined that the power was in themselves to vindicate and protect their privilege, and he did not believe that this was the proper time for them to agree to such a course as that proposed. Let the House not fancy that while Parliament had been deemed paramount—while that had been conceded for ages which the Court of Queen's Bench denied—conceded, too, by the brightest names that adorned English history, name after name—that, while the House of Commons was deemed co-ordinate with the House of Lords, superior to the courts of law, and judges of their own privileges—let them not fancy that what they possessed under these circumstances they would retain when their position was charged—let them not fancy that they had a fee-simple in all their privileges, when they were only tenants at will of this one. (Cheers.) The Court of Queen's Bench had displaced the constitutional position of the House. That House was no longer, according to the judgement of the courts, a co-ordinate authority with the House of Lords. That balance and constitutional check, which had been the pride of those who had investigated and expressed opinions on the British Constitution, was gone. If that House might have every one of its privileges decided by the House of Lords, the independence, and honour, and authority of the legislative body were diminished. (Hear, hear.) It was important that respect should be paid to the courts of law who executed the law. It was not less important that respect should be paid to, and dignity enjoyed by, those who made the laws. (Cheers.) He regretted that so many gentlemen in the House who valued old institutions should have forgotten that the House of Commons was one of them, and that the constitution would, in times of danger and difficulty, have often perished but for the authority of the House of Commons.

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